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5-19-2021

## Marginalia no. 46

Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University

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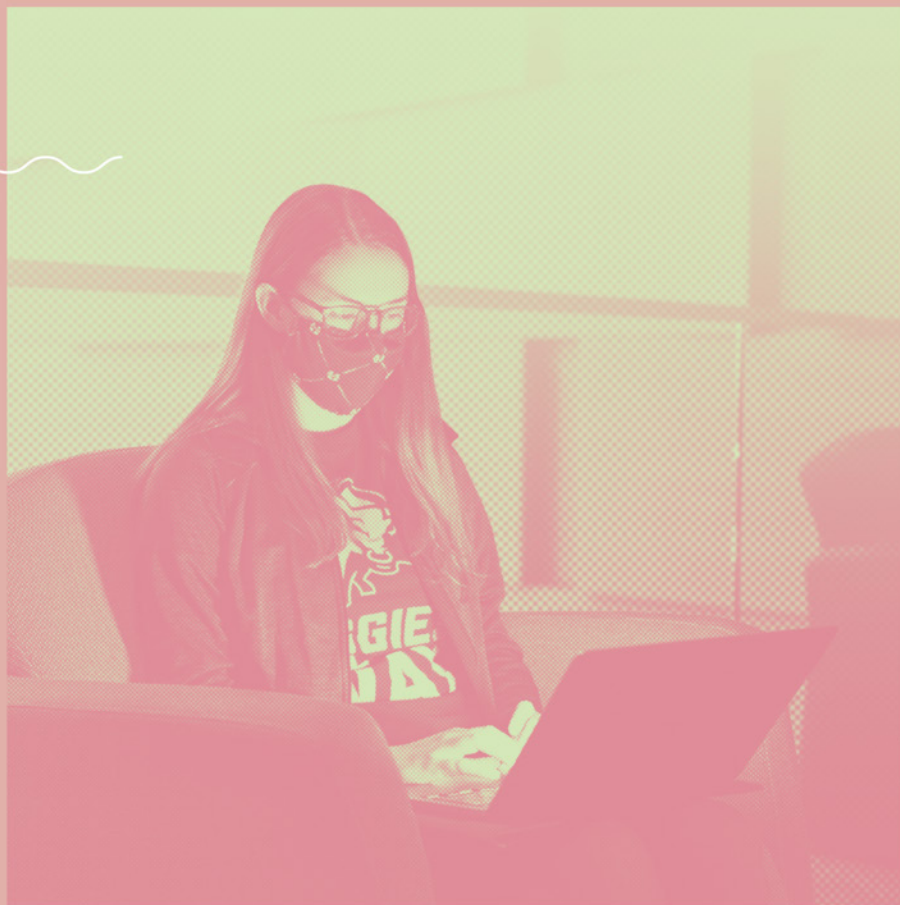
### Recommended Citation

Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, "Marginalia no. 46" (2021). *Marginalia*. Paper 46.  
<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/marginalia/46>

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# MARGINALIA



# SPRING 2021

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## Dear Friends,

I have always enjoyed and embraced the role that serendipity has played in my life. When I entered the master's degree program in the USU History Department in 1980, I was constantly asked, "what will you do with a master's degree in history?" It took a while, but I found the answer in the library.

My first formative experience in an academic library was conducting archival research in the Merrill-Cazier Library about Fort Hall, a fur trading post in southeastern Idaho and later stopover on the Oregon trail. I quickly learned that, in the archives, one could find unheard voices of history in letters, documents, ledgers, oral histories, etc. Working in archives quickly became my passion and then my career. In 1984 I was fortunate enough to become the Keeper of Manuscripts in the USU Library's Special Collections (my first boss had a penchant for British titles).

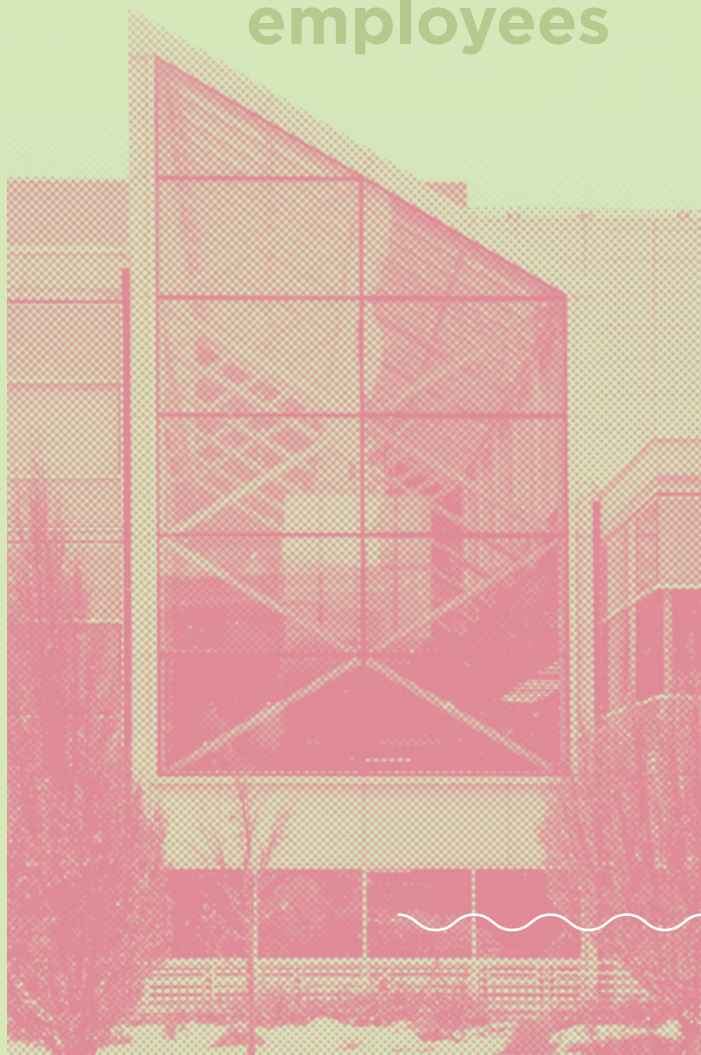
After a short stint as the manuscript curator at Northern Arizona University, Utah State University offered me the opportunity to become the director of Special Collections & Archives. I jumped at the chance. When I was invited to become interim dean and later dean of libraries, I accepted that unexpected opportunity and have enjoyed continuing to help others learn about the importance and joy found in libraries.

The answer to the question about what one does with a history degree, like many other questions, was found in the library. Now as I plan to retire this summer, the new question is "what will you do in retirement?" Lots of plans, but I wait for my next serendipitous opportunity to point the way. I encourage everyone to follow your passions and embrace life's turns. I would like to thank all of our Friends for your wonderful support of our great library!

– Brad Cole  
Dean of Libraries

# welcome

## new library employees



**Jason Folkman**

Electronic Resources  
Librarian

Jason Folkman was recently hired as Electronic Resources Librarian after serving as Electronic Resources Acquisitions Assistant for the last five years. As the Electronic Resources Librarian, Jason will manage and maintain USU Libraries' e-resources, including databases, electronic journals, licenses, and work to ensure that patrons have access to our electronic materials. Jason received his undergraduate degrees from Utah State University and earned his MLS from the University of North Texas. He is proud to be able to continue to serve the USU community. Outside USU, you can find Jason chasing his twin toddler boys around the house with his wife, playing video games, and fancying his four cats.





**Nikki Fullmer**

Online Learning  
Librarian

Nikki Fullmer received her MLIS from Simmons University in Boston, MA, where she gained experience in academic and law libraries. During her last semester at Simmons, she participated in an independent study which she conducted at UNLV, her undergraduate alma mater. During this time, Nikki was hired as the Information Literacy Fellow where she gained experience in academic research, instruction, and creating digital learning objects. She is excited to work with staff and faculty to develop online learning materials that are engaging, helpful, and accessible. She is also looking forward to increasing staff and faculty's confidence in creating online learning materials through instruction and professional development. During her free time, Nikki enjoys cooking, traveling, and cheering for her favorite hockey team, the Vegas Golden Knights.



**L. Wynholds**

Research Data  
Librarian

L. Wynholds obtained a PhD in Information Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles, studying data practices in the sciences and digital recordkeeping for health data. Prior to that, they received their MLIS at the University of Madison—Wisconsin, focusing on digital libraries and digital archives. L was recently hired to serve as the Research Data Librarian and is excited to work with faculty, students and staff—both inside and outside of the libraries—to build engagement with research data management. Previously, L worked in public services at a health sciences library doing patron billing, interlibrary loan, and circulation. L also spent four years in technical services at a large academic library doing conservation/preservation treatments with both circulating and special collections materials. When not working, L enjoys traveling, exploring the outdoors, hanging out with animals and herding cats.

## The Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation Tribal Library

Over the past few years, the Libraries' Special Collections & Archives and Digital Initiatives units have undertaken a significant and unique ongoing project. The Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation Tribal Library Digital Collection is the product of a 20-year effort to collect materials produced by tribal members and digitize relevant records found in multiple archives across the state, including Utah State University, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Church History Library, the University of Utah, and Brigham Young University.

While much of the collection is physically housed at the tribal offices, members and friends of the tribe who compiled the archive sought greater accessibility for the materials. In 2019, librarians and archivists at USU's Merrill-Cazier Library were approached about making digital files available through the library's website. In 2020, the hard drive containing the collection was delivered to USU, and the process of uploading those files is currently underway.

When complete, the digital archive will provide access to approximately 17,000 manuscripts, photographs, maps, and audio-visual files related to the history of the tribe and its members, language, and customs.

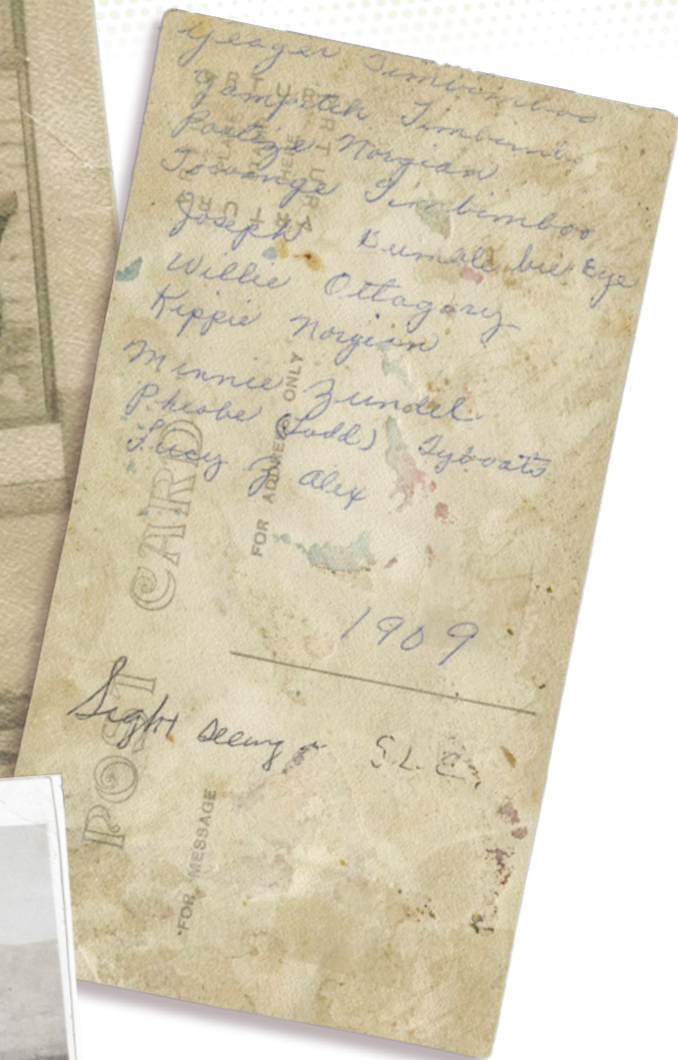


All images courtesy of the Mae Timbimboo Parry photo collection, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation Tribal Library





Washobie Utah 1935





## USU Libraries Engages in Utah Power Systems Project

This year, the USU Libraries' Special Collections & Archives (SCA) unit received the minutes of the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) Board of Directors. The UAMPS organization, a nonprofit, political subdivision of the State of Utah, provides comprehensive wholesale electric energy and power transmission to community-owned power systems throughout the Intermountain West.

UAMPS membership includes communities located in Utah, California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, and Wyoming. The donated material also consists of board minutes for each project administered by UAMPS—documenting the planning, development, and management, with member input, in each project's decision-making process.

Additionally, UAMPS provided funding to hire a UAMPS intern, Monique Davila, to process, arrange, and describe the minutes. She is a USU graduate history student and a native of Tucson, Arizona. Monique also participated in the oral history interviews conducted with UAMPS Chief Executive Officer, Doug Hunter, and long-time UAMPS Board Member, Dwight Day. The UAMPS collection and oral histories will add to SCA's environmental collections by documenting the power industry and the physical environment of the Intermountain region.





## Celebrating 2020 USU Faculty Authors

The Libraries' annual Research Week event, in collaboration with USU's Office of Research, once again looked a bit different this year. All events, including faculty and student awards ceremonies and the Student Research Symposium, were held virtually.

The Faculty Author Exhibition is a widely-popular event that celebrates faculty's published works for the year prior. Collection Management Librarian Robert Heaton and Collection Development Library Assistant Gaby LeBeau compiled and arranged a display of these titles, all available for checkout, in the Merrill-Cazier Library's New Books Lounge. Despite shutdowns and telework, USU faculty published 34 titles during 2020.

With the work of the Libraries' graphic designer and marketing coordinator, a circular highlighting these 34 titles was distributed to Research Week attendees and put online in our Digital Commons where it can be accessed by anyone.

We are very proud of our faculty members who were able to accomplish this milestone and we are also proud that we can showcase them despite a challenging year.

Visit the USU Libraries' Issuu page to view this year's full Faculty Author Circular, as well as many other library digital publications and collections!

[ISSUU.COM/USUDIGITALCOMMONS](https://issuu.com/usudigitalcommons)



## Kathy Christiansen Elected New Friends President

Katherine “Kathy” Mather Christiansen grew up in Smithfield, Utah, and has spent most of her life there. Following graduation from Sky View High School, she attended Utah State University as an English major on a four-year scholarship and was a member of Kappa Delta Sorority and the singing group, *The Youngtimers*. During the summers, *The Youngtimers* performed at Sun Valley in Idaho for various conventions and groups. After acquiring a booking agent in New York, the group participated in two national college tours and a USO tour to Greenland, Iceland, Newfoundland, and Labrador. It was during these tours that she got better acquainted with Mike Christiansen, the guitarist in the group. They were married ten months later.

Mike was the Director of Guitar Studies in the Music Department for 39 years. Kathy and Mike have four children, Corey, Dustin, Ashley, and Emily, all graduates of Utah State, and 14 grandchildren, two of which are presently attending USU.

Kathy was a middle school language arts teacher for 25 years and acted as chairman or co-chairman for the Young Artists and Writers Fest for 20 years, a program she and four other teachers started to celebrate Cache Valley’s creative students. She is now a member of the Cache County Board of Education, having served as president for four years. She’s a member of the Clio Literary Club and is the chairman of the club’s literacy project, “Books for Babies; Readers for Life.” This project includes getting books and information on how to raise a reader into the hands of new moms at Cache



Valley’s local hospitals, Logan and Cache preschool classes, Headstart classes, and The Family Place. She has written a novel called *Billy Barnes and the Cyber Caper* for middle school students and is working on getting it published. She has been a member of the Merrill-Cazier Library Board for two years and is excited to help promote the Library, enrich its resources, and assist students in their learning by improving library services.



## Library & Friends Wish Dean Brad Cole a Happy Retirement

Dean Brad Cole recently announced his retirement as Dean of USU Libraries effective July 1, 2021—completing a 38-year-long career in academia. Originally hired by USU Libraries in 1984 as the Curator of Manuscripts for the Special Collections & Archives unit, Cole strived to build and strengthen holdings documenting the early settlement and development of the Cache Valley region. He left USU in 1995 for Northern Arizona University (NAU), where he developed and promoted NAU’s manuscript and oral history collections.

In 2004, Cole returned to USU as Associate Director for Special Collections & Archives, beginning an era of refinement and expansion of the unit’s practices—especially in collection development, archival description, and instruction and exhibition programming. In July

2014, Cole began an eighteen-month stint as Interim Dean before being officially hired as Dean of USU Libraries on January 1, 2016.

During his tenure as Dean, USU Libraries developed many new services, including assignment design workshops, Open Educational Resources (OER) grants, and compliance assistance for federally-funded grants for associated research data. His leadership and management skills were exemplary during the development of library programming in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dean Cole’s thoughtful management style is respected widely among USU administration and faculty, including his professional colleagues within the Library. The Library wishes Dean Cole a long and happy retirement!





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Published by: Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library  
Issue Coordinator: Trina Shelton  
Graphic Designer: Shay Larsen  
Photographers: Devin Greener, Kellianne Gammill  
Contributors: Kellianne Gammill, Todd Welch,  
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